

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1-42 (canceled).

- 43. (new) A method for treating melanoma in a patient in need thereof, comprising selectively antagonizing the endothelin B receptor (ETB) in said patient.
- 44. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein the endothelin B receptor (ETB) is antagonized by administration of a selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist.
- 45. (new) A method for treating melanoma, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist to a patient in need thereof.
- 46. (new) The method of claim 44, wherein the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist is a peptide inhibitor.
- 47. (new) The method of claim 44, wherein the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist is an endothelin B receptor (ETB) antibody.
- 48. (new) The method of claim 45, wherein the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist is a peptide inhibitor.
- 49. (new) The method of claim 45, wherein the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist is an endothelin B receptor (ETB) antibody.
- 50. (new) The method of claim 44, wherein the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist is BQ788.
- 51. (new) The method of claim 44, wherein the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist is IRL-1038.
- 52. (new) The method of claim 44, wherein the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist is RES-701-1.

53. (new) The method of claim 45, wherein the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist is BQ788.
54. (new) The method of claim 45, wherein the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist is IRL-1038.
55. (new) The method of claim 45, wherein the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist is RES-701-1.
56. (new) The method of claim 43, wherein said patient displays one or more atypical moles.
57. (new) The method of claim 45, wherein said patient displays one or more atypical moles.
58. (new) The method of claim 44, wherein the ability of the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist to antagonize the endothelin B receptor (ETB) is determined *in vitro* by:
- a) contacting a cell culture expressing endothelin B receptor (ETB) and E-cadherin with endothelin and the compound;
  - b) determining the level of E-cadherin expression; and
  - c) comparing the level of E-cadherin expression determined in step b) to that of a control culture in the absence of said compound, so that an increase in expression of E-cadherin indicates antagonist activity.
59. (new) The method of claim 45, wherein the ability of the selective endothelin B receptor (ETB) antagonist to antagonize the endothelin B receptor (ETB) is determined *in vitro* by:
- a) contacting a cell culture expressing endothelin B receptor (ETB) and E-cadherin with endothelin and the compound;
  - b) determining the level of E-cadherin expression; and

c) comparing the level of E-cadherin expression determined in step b) to that of a control culture in the absence of said compound, so that an increase in expression of E-cadherin indicates antagonist activity.